



## ***Dear Students, Teachers, and Friends:***

Southern Bell is pleased to present this fifth edition of the South Carolina African-American History Calendar.

We began producing these special calendars to feature one of the many different cultures which has influenced the growth and development of the Palmetto State. Southern Bell wanted to assist the South Carolina Department of Education in meeting the Educational Improvement Act mandate which calls for the inclusion of African-American history in the social studies curriculum. Our government felt this mandate was necessary because of the lack of material on this subject. The response from students, educators and the general public has indicated that the calendar has filled a gap in the history books, and that it has helped to build a better understanding of African-American culture.

Included in this year's calendar is a teacher's guide which provides suggested lessons for various subjects. Through the lessons, students will be introduced to basic skills and high order thinking activities while they explore the professions and lives of the 1994 honorees.

The individuals highlighted in this year's calendar have excelled in their respective fields and are role models for all of our children. They have succeeded in the areas of law enforcement, business, medicine, community service, architecture, broadcasting, aviation, music, writing, farming, athletics, art, military service, and spiritual counseling.

This year WIS Television has produced an exciting video which highlights the lives of the 12 people featured in the calendar. WIS Television is providing copies of the video to the South Carolina Department of Education for use in classrooms.

Teachers can obtain a copy of the 1994 African-American History Calendar Video from the Audio-Visual Library of the South Carolina Department of Education by writing to AV Library, 513 Gervais Street, Columbia, S.C. 29201.

While we feel the teacher's guide and video will greatly help teach students about the lives of the people featured in the calendar, we encourage you to develop lessons of your own. Please share with us examples of lesson plans you develop or ideas for improving the calendar and video. We would like to select some of these ideas to be included in future editions.

Your opinion about this educational program is valuable to WIS Television, the South Carolina Department of Education, and Southern Bell. If you have any comments or questions about the calendar or would like to share your lesson plans with us, please send them to Calendar, P.O. Box 752, Columbia, S.C. 29202

The 1994 African-American History Calendar is a testimonial to the superb strength, hard work, and dedication of the people featured. We hope that their stories will inspire you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe M. Anderson, Jr.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joe M. Anderson, Jr.  
President  
Southern Bell in South Carolina



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photograph of Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor

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Charlotte, North Carolina

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Greenville, South Carolina

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STRANGE

## Dori Sanders

As a child, Dorinda Sanders, better known as "Dori," recalls telling stories at a place known as the "storytelling rock." Dori and her sisters and brothers would gather there for hours sharing all sorts of stories. Those sessions at the rock led to the formal creation of her own stories, and today she is a noted author who has clung to her farming roots.

The best-selling author was born in Filbert, a community in York County. The eighth of 10 children, she grew up working on her family's peach farm. The produce was sold at an open-air market on U.S. 321 in Filbert. Working diligently in the orchards of her family's peach farm has had a lasting impact.

During the off-season from farming, Sanders traveled north and worked odd jobs. Once, she worked in a banquet hall where she began writing on small pieces of paper, napkins and the backs of menus. The owner of the hotel read samples of her writings and encouraged her to continue.

"I guess I started writing because I wanted to leave something for my nieces and nephews, a way to tell them what life was like on the farm, because I know when my generation passes, this farm will pass out of our family," Sanders says. "None of the young people these days want to farm. You see, they want things and farming doesn't afford you things."

After returning home to South Carolina, she completed a manuscript and submitted it to a publisher. Although her manuscript was rejected, the publisher informed her that her work showed promise and that she should not be discouraged. Without sermons, without pronouncements, Sanders tells stories about ordinary, everyday people, black and white.

In 1990, she submitted a second manuscript entitled *Clover* to Algonquin Press, a publishing company in North Carolina. This story of a relationship between a 10-year-old black girl, Clover, and her white stepmother is beautifully told through the eyes of the young girl. The setting is rural South Carolina following the death of the girl's father. The novel received rave reviews and became a surprise best seller. *Clover* has been printed in five foreign languages, and Disney purchased the movie rights to the book. Sanders received the Lillian Smith Award for *Clover*.

Three years later, Sanders' latest novel *Her Own Place* was published to widespread critical acclaim. *Her Own Place* is about a woman named Mae Lee Barnes who buys a farm, works it, raises a family and moves to town. Taking things as they come, Sanders' protagonist finds she is equal to any occasion.

"Mae Lee represents all women who struggled after World War II," says Sanders. "And you see, unlike Mae Lee, I have no children, but in this novel I gave myself five. In a way it makes me feel fulfilled."

Sanders has remained committed to farming, despite the fact that she has become a renowned author. She does most of her writing during the off-seasons. She also speaks at schools and libraries.

"I encourage the children, telling them to do like I do and write what they know," she says. "Farming is who I am. If someone asks me what I do, I say, 'I'm a farmer.' And only later do I say, 'Oh, and I also do some writing.' I grew up in a place and a time, and I'll never be able to get



# January 1994



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

						<b>New Year's Day 1</b>  Emancipation Proclamation issued in 1863
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. elected chairperson of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor in 1961	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  Marian Anderson's debut at the Metropolitan Opera House in 1955	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>  Fisk University established in 1866	<b>10</b>  Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Martin Luther King, Jr. born in 1929
<b>16</b>	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 17</b>  Paul Cuffe born near Dartmouth, Mass. in 1759	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 30	<b>24</b> 31	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>





## The Honorable Harvey B. Gantt

Harvey Gantt has spent his life breaking new ground. In 1963, he became the first African-American student to attend a previously all-white institution of higher learning in South Carolina when he was admitted to Clemson University. Twenty years later, he became the first African-American mayor of the city of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Gantt has a formula for success. "Successful people have a strong sense of their own self-worth, and that sense of self-esteem is the foundation on which they reach out and move forward," he says.

Born in Charleston in 1943, Gantt was educated in the public school system of that city. He graduated second in his class from Burke High School and attended Iowa State University on a merit scholarship. In 1961, he applied to Clemson University and was admitted under court order. In 1965, he graduated with honors with a bachelor of architecture degree. In 1970, he earned a master of city planning degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The following year, Gantt started Gantt Huberman Architects, a Charlotte architectural firm co-founded with Jeff Huberman. The firm grew tremendously and became an award-winning design organization. In 1986, he was made a fellow in the American Institute of Architects, which is the highest honor granted to a practicing architect. He devotes time to speaking and lecturing nationwide at colleges and universities on current architectural and political issues.

Harvey Gantt is also known for his political activities. He served more than three terms on the Charlotte City Council during the late 1970s. He was mayor pro tem of the city in 1981 and 1983, and later was elected mayor of Charlotte, an office he held for two terms. During his tenure, the city of Charlotte underwent one of its greatest periods of prosperity. More than 21,000 new jobs were created and investments reached more than a million dollars.

In 1990, Gantt, a Democrat, decided to run for national office and contested Jesse Helms in the North Carolina U.S. Senate race. In a much publicized and controversial campaign, Gantt lost the election but won national acclaim and respect for positions he took on education, health care and the environment. Today, he remains active in politics, serving on the North Carolina Executive Council and the Democratic National Committee. With more than 15 years of service to the public, he remains an active participant in dozens of civic, cultural and professional organizations. Gantt's awards and honors are numerous and include honorary doctoral degrees from six colleges and universities.

Gantt's spirited bid to dislodge Helms typifies his belief that no challenge is too great. His motto can be found in the words of Booker T. Washington, who said, "Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life, as by the obstacles which one has to overcome while trying to succeed."

"Young people should never give up on their dreams and vision to become somebody," Gantt says. "We all possess the potential to become successful in life, and I challenge every student



# February 1994



**Southern Bell**  
A BELL SOUTH Company

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870	7	8	9	10	11	12 Abraham Lincoln born in 1809 Congress enacted first fugitive slave law in 1793 NAACP founded in 1909
13	Valentine's Day 14	15 Henry Lewis named director of the New Jersey Symphony in 1968 Nat King Cole died in 1965	Ash Wednesday 16 Joe Frazier became World Heavyweight Boxing Champion by a knockout in 1970	17	18	19
20 Frederick Douglass died in 1895	President's Day 21	22 George Washington born in 1732	23 W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868	24	25 Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) Wins World Heavy- weight crown in 1964	26
27	28					





**Charles P. Austin, Sr.**

Charles Austin remembers watching "Dragnet" as a child and wanting to be like Joe Friday when he grew up. Today, he is chief of the largest police department in South Carolina. He got there by starting young.

At his elementary school in Greenville, Austin joined the safety patrol. Years later he graduated from South Carolina State University and received his master's degree in criminal justice from the University of South Carolina in 1985.

"My parents were very instrumental in my early development. They stressed the importance of a sound value system in order to be successful. My father taught me patience, my mother taught me values and positive self-esteem, and a friend, John Henry Meekins, taught me work ethics," Austin said. "Mr. Meekins paid me \$1 a week to empty trash at the local funeral home and to go with him when he had to dig graves. He used to lower me into the graves to measure their depths."

Between his first job in Greenville in 1973 and his current position as Chief of Police of Columbia, he worked at the State Law Enforcement Division, at South Carolina State University and was Deputy Chief of Police in Chatham County, Georgia. In 1990, he became Columbia's first African-American chief of police.

Austin's success can be measured by the respect he receives from his officers, from business leaders and from the community. By creating a safer living environment, Austin knows he is contributing to Columbia's economic development.

"I have always wanted to help people," said Austin. "I have always believed that the law enforcement system should help the community and serve the people."

Austin has established police satellite offices in public housing areas to suppress the increasing crime rate. The idea has been successful and, consequently, 13 other police "substations" have been opened in Columbia. In his commitment to improve the downtown area, he has also dispatched teams of officers to ensure safety, and has started a mounted patrol.

A gifted teacher, speaker and lecturer, Austin constantly emphasizes the value of a good education.

"Education is a process that continues until we are planted six feet under," Austin says. "We learn something new every day, and the community as a whole is responsible for the education of our children."

Austin participates in numerous community activities, and has received countless honors and recognitions.

"In order for you to be a productive citizen, you have to keep your mind, body and soul clean," Austin tells students. "You must understand what it means to respect the dignity of all people, but you must first have a strong sense of self respect. And, you must understand the necessity of being well-mannered and polite. You must also understand conflict resolution, such as walking away from a confrontation, instead of resorting to violence to settle differences.

"Most important, you must be well grounded with strong moral and spiritual values that will not only allow you to 'just say no,' but will give you the inner strength and confidence to withstand the ridicule from those who will try to persuade you to do wrong. Learn these



# March 1994



**Southern Bell**  
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Orthodox Lent Begins 1	2 Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972	3	4	5 Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1875
6	7	8	9	10 Harriet Tubman died in 1913	11 Lorraine Hansberry play, <i>Raisin in The Sun</i> , opened on Broadway in 1959	12
13	14	15	16	St. Patrick's Day 17	18 Frederick Douglass named U.S. Marshal of the District of Columbia in 1877	19
20	21	22	23	24 AME Zion Church organized in S.C. in 1867	25 Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966	26 William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937
Palm Sunday Passover Begins 27	28	29	30	31		





**Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor**

To many Americans, she is an author and popular broadcast personality. To her family, she is affectionately known as "Kuta." The word "kuta" means "turtle" in Gullah, and it is as an expert in that unique Sea Island culture that Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor has made an outstanding contribution to our awareness of a little understood part of South Carolina's heritage.

Smart-Grosvenor was born a premature twin in the Hampton County area and has always felt that she was very special.

"The midwife said I weighed like a five-pound bag of sugar when it's a little more than half full. That would be three pounds. My brother weighed like a five pound bag of sugar and a little more. That would be six pounds. He died and I was very, very weak," Smart-Grosvenor explained. "My maternal Grandmama Sula put me in a shoe box and placed the box on the oven door of the wood burning stove. My mother was also very weak and couldn't nurse me. I was fed goat's milk from a medicine dropper. Folks came to look at the shoe box baby, with the little body and long limbs. 'Oh God,' they'd say. 'It looks like a kuta!' So the name stuck."

At the age of 10, she moved to Philadelphia with her parents. Moving north was difficult. She was teased and taunted by the other children because of her "geechee" talk and ways. Escape came through a keen imagination and reading books that took her to distant places and times. She was encouraged to learn about other people and cultures by her paternal grandmother.

"Mother Dear said 'It's a big world.' By her example I learned that what's inside you can't be taken away, and your potential can be reached, no matter what the odds," Smart-Grosvenor said.

At 18, Smart-Grosvenor sailed to Paris, France, and the experience significantly transformed her life. After meeting people from all over the globe, she looked at her South Carolina lowcountry heritage from a distance and began to appreciate the richness of Gullah traditions from her grandfather's basket weaving to the fishing customs, the rituals and even the foods.

Gullah people are descendants of West African slaves. Despite the presence of other cultures and development of the area, many Gullah traditions endure in the lowcountry and the Sea Islands that lace the South Carolina and Georgia coasts.

Smart-Grosvenor describes herself as a "poet, culinary anthropologist and writer." She has written books, numerous essays and poems and articles for national magazines and newspapers, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Redbook* and *Ebony*. Her autobiographical cookbook, *Vibration Cooking or the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl* was first published in 1970, reissued in 1986 and again in 1992.

Most recently, she was a featured player in Julie Dash's acclaimed American Playhouse movie, *Daughters of the Dust*.

She has won several honors for her notable public broadcasts, features and documentaries, including an EMMY for a television commentary titled "Growing Up Gullah."

Currently, Smart-Grosvenor is the host of National Public Radio's award-winning documentary series, "Horizons," and is writing a new book on Afro-Atlantic cookery. The title of the book is *Nyam*, a Gullah word meaning "to eat." She continues to carry the legacy of Gullah traditions



# April 1994



**Southern Bell**  
A BELL SOUTH Company

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Good Friday 1  Hampton Institute opened in 1868	2
Easter Sunday 3	4	5	6  Robert E. Perry and Matthew Henson reached the North Pole in 1909	7	8  Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run in 1974	9  Civil Rights Bill granting citizenship passed in 1866
Orthodox Easter 10  Richard Allen made Bishop of the AME Church in 1816	11	12  Free African Society organized in 1787	13	14	15	16  Founding of Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in 1960
17	18	19	20	21	22	23  National Urban League founded in 1913
24	25	26	Secretaries Day 27	28	29	30





**Everett L. Dargan, M. D.**

“He put me into warp speed and opened up new worlds to me—embryology, anatomy and zoology. Seeing bacteria and red blood cells was like discovering new life forms on ‘Star Trek’.”

Everett Dargan was 15 years old and a freshman at Morehouse College in Atlanta when he realized that medicine could be an exciting field of study. Before that, he had wanted to become either a baseball player or a plumber.

Dargan credits his professor, Dr. Harold Eugene Finley, with inspiring him to pursue science. “Finley was a taskmaster and insisted on perfection,” Dargan recalls. “But he also had a sense of humor. He was my mentor.”

A native of Columbia, Dargan continued his education at the University of Buffalo and Howard University’s School of Medicine. After completing his internship in Brooklyn, N.Y., he began his residency in general surgery at the Albert Einstein Medical School in the Bronx.

Dargan’s residency was interrupted when he was called into active duty during the Korean War. He was sent to England where he became a captain and commander of the 3910th U.S.A. Hospital. Afterwards, he completed his medical training in thoracic and cardiovascular medicine at Boston University Medical Center.

Dargan returned to New York to become an associate professor of surgery at the Albert Einstein Medical School and director of surgery at Lincoln Hospital and subsequently at New York’s Sydenham Hospital. He taught medical students and surgical residents for more than 12 years. Dargan expected perfection and taught his students what he learned from his mentor.

“None of us is an original. We take from our heroes,” Dargan said. “One of my heroes, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, said that you should do what you do so well that no man living, dead or yet unborn could do it better.”

Dargan has published many surgical papers in leading national medical journals and has participated in preparing practicing surgeons for board certification. He has given presentations at national and international medical meetings.

After Dargan left Lincoln Hospital, he became director of surgery at New York’s Sydenham Hospital where he remained until returning to South Carolina in 1978. He began a private practice in thoracic, vascular and general surgery in Columbia. Two years later, Dargan and Dr. Gerald Wilson formed the Midlands Surgical Associates, where he still practices medicine.

“I get high from practicing medicine,” Dargan says. “The exhilaration comes when patients say ‘thank you’ and you know that you have helped them. That’s the real reward in medicine.”

In addition to his active practice, Dargan is an associate clinical professor of surgery at the University of South Carolina.

“It is my hope that more South Carolina students will discover the world of medicine. I hope that those who do go into medicine will return to their home state to practice,” says Dargan. “We have many students with the potential to succeed in medical and science fields. All they have to do is be determined and dedicated. And they have to study. Students must be persistent in the pursuit



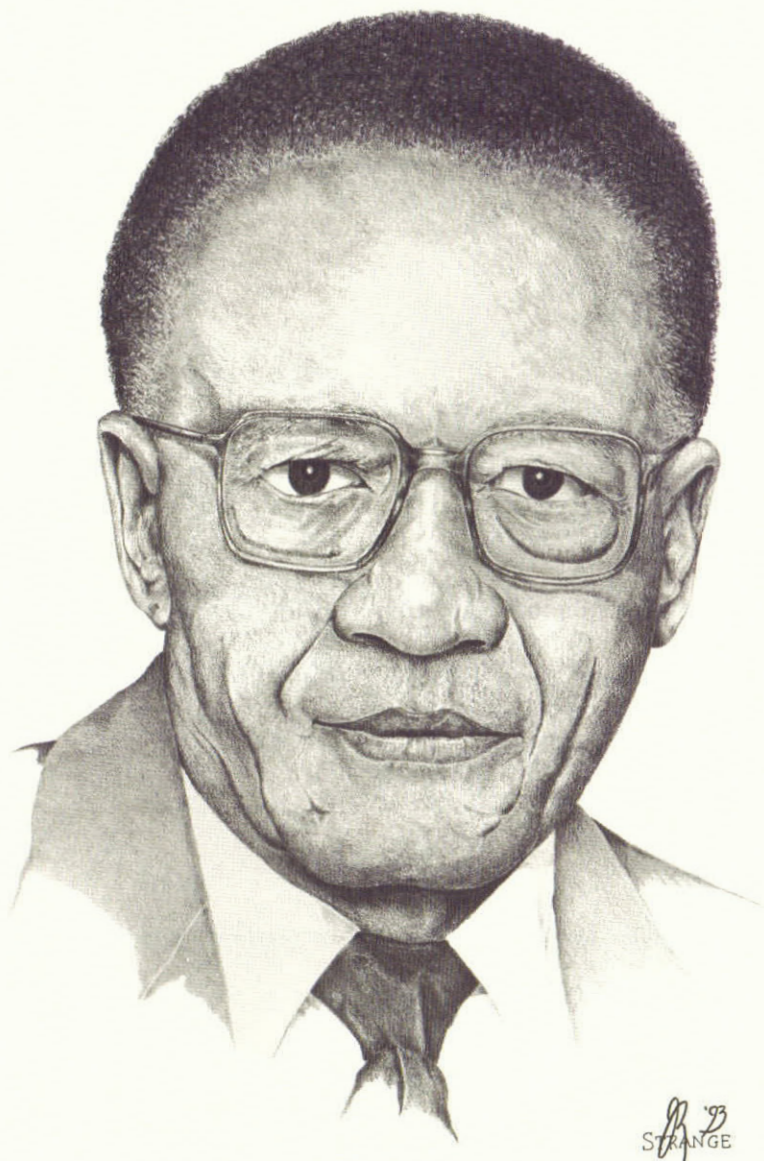
# May 1994



**Southern Bell**  
A BELL SOUTH Company

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Freedom Rides began in 1961 <i>Plessy vs. Ferguson</i> upheld "Separate But Equal" doctrine in 1896	5	6 Civil Rights Act signed by President Eisenhower in 1960	7
Mother's Day 8 Rev. Henry McNeal Turner died in 1915	9	10	11	12	13 Robert Smalls seized Confederate warship in 1862	14
15	16	17 <i>Brown vs. Board of Education</i> made "Separate But Equal" in public schools unconstitutional in 1954	18	19 Malcolm X born in 1925	20 Robert N. C. Nix elected to U.S. Congress in 1958	Armed Forces Day 21
22 Claude McCay died in 1948	23 Victoria Day (Canada)	24	25 Madame C. J. Walker died in 1919	26	27	28
29	Memorial Day 30 Musical <i>"Shuffle Along"</i> opened in New York in 1921	31				





**Ernest Henderson, Sr.**

“From plow to plane” is an appropriate way to describe Ernest Henderson’s life.

“I was plowing in the cotton field when I first saw an airplane,” he recalls. “I was fascinated by that flying machine.” That encounter as a child on a small farm in Laurens County left an impression. Ten years later, he became a pilot and flight instructor.

Born in Mountville in 1917, Ernest Henderson, Sr. was educated in Laurens County in a wooden schoolhouse without running water, a chalkboard or desks. The school was not an adequate facility, but that did not prevent Henderson from learning. Reflecting on his experience in the small wooden school, he says, “I was anxious to try to be the best in class.” He graduated with highest honors from Bell High School in Clinton and began undergraduate work at Hampton Institute in Virginia.

There he was encouraged by the school’s president to go to Tuskegee Institute to take flying courses to qualify for the Army Air Corps. He entered Tuskegee determined to become a proficient pilot. He succeeded and joined the Army Air Corps Pilot/Flight Instructor Group.

“We had the distinct privilege of flying with some people who became outstanding later on,” says Henderson. “We flew with the late General Daniel ‘Chappie’ James, Jr., who became commander-in-chief of the North American Air Defense Command, and with Lieutenant General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who was in command of the 99th Pursuit Squadron in Europe.” Henderson became assistant squadron commander and was one of the pioneers in making aviation a reality for African-Americans in this country. Recently, Henderson was inducted into the South Carolina Aviation Hall of Fame.

Henderson later completed his bachelor of science degree in commerce at Benedict College in Columbia. He then received his master’s degree at the University of Wisconsin and has also studied at South Carolina State University, the University of South Carolina and Duke University.

“A good education is one of the most important keys to success in life. Regardless of the type of home or background from which you come, you can get an education and be successful if you just set your mind to it and work hard,” he says.

Henderson has worked as an educator and administrator in Richland County School District One for 21 years. He has been a classroom teacher, business manager and guidance counselor. He recently retired from the school system and now does volunteer work.

“If I could go from plow to plane coming through my poorly equipped schools, you should be able to make greater accomplishments in your modern schools,” Henderson tells students. “So go to school and stay in school and develop your capabilities to the very fullest. Use your time wisely in school. Develop good study habits and budget your time. Set high attainable goals in school and work hard to reach them. Then, with a good self-image, a determination to do



# June 1994



**Southern Bell**  
A BELL SOUTH Company

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Sojourner Truth began anti-slavery activist career in 1843	2	3	4
5	6 Congress of Racial Equality founded in 1942	7	8 Supreme Court banned segregation in Washington, D.C. restaurants in 1953	9	10	11
12	13 Thurgood Marshall appointed to U.S. Supreme Court in 1967	Flag Day 14	15	16	17	18 Black soldiers fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775
Father's Day 19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Organization for Afro-American Unity founded in 1964	29	30		





**Linda Dingle Gadson**

Linda Gadson is an unusual person who is a jack of all trades and master of all. At the rural mission on Johns Island, she is counselor, doctor, minister, teacher, lawyer and real estate agent for her community.

"My lifelong dream is to do God's will, to touch someone's life and to make a difference with each person," Gadson says. She credits her grandmother for teaching her spiritual values, caretaking skills and the importance of education.

Gadson graduated from the College of Charleston with a major in political science and a minor in sociology. She was supposed to enter law school at the University of South Carolina in the fall of 1972, but she got sidetracked by a part-time summer job coordinating one of the projects at the Rural Mission of Johns Island, Inc. Twenty-one years later, she is still there as executive director.

"The Rural Mission, Inc. fulfilled the need for me to help others," Gadson explained. "The mission fosters, promotes and ministers to the spiritual, economic, social, educational, medical and housing needs of five Charleston County Sea Islands: Johns, James, Wadmalaw, Yonges and Edisto."

The Rural Mission, Inc. is an ecumenical, non-profit organization founded primarily to care for migrant farm workers and needy families. It is located in a small community on Johns Island and is supported primarily by a network of churches and congregations throughout the United States. The mission is constantly expanding services and projects.

Gadson oversees the coordination of services and the operation of the facility. Serving more than 250 children, the Migrant Headstart Program is one project that cares for migrant farm children in four locations. Migrant Headstart has helped to rescue children between six weeks to five years from the fields and to provide them with a healthy environment where learning is possible.

"One of my greatest joys was seeing one of our students go to college and graduate from seminary," Gadson said. "Seeing people improve their lives, become productive and independent, is my reward."

Some of the other projects that help make the residents independent are the Volunteer Workcamp Project, which repairs and renovates housing, and Crisis Assistance, which helps families buy food, find housing and pay utility bills. The Sunshine Store provides good used clothing that families can purchase with dignity. Also, the Rural Mission, Inc. provides assistance with job placement, dealing with government agencies and helping young people secure funds for education.

"My grandmother always told me to put myself in someone else's shoes," Gadson said. "I have always reached out to help people, and God has always given me a road map to show



# July 1994



**Southern Bell**  
A BELL SOUTH Company

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Canada Day (Canada)	2 Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed Thurgood Marshall born in 1908
3	Independence Day Tuskegee Institute established in 1881 Slavery abolished in New York in 1827	4	5	6 Althea Gibson won Wimbledon in 1957	7	8
9						Francis L. Cardozo installed as South Carolina's Secretary of State in 1868
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 14th Amendment ratified in 1868 National Association for Colored Women founded in 1896	22	23
Billie Holiday died in 1959	Lemuel Haynes born in 1753					
24 Mary Church Terrell died in 1954	25	26 Patrick Francis Healy, first African-American awarded a Ph.D. in 1865 President Truman banned discrimination in the armed services in 1948	27	28	29	30
31						





**Donnie Shell**

Do childhood dreams really come true? They did for Donnie Shell.

As a young boy growing up in Whitmire, Shell dreamed of becoming a professional football player. He played football at college but was not drafted. He entered the National Football League as a free agent and began his career with the Pittsburgh Steelers as a fifth defensive back on special teams. By the time he retired from football 14 years later, Shell had reached the peak of his profession, collecting an unprecedented four Super Bowl rings and setting an NFL record.

From an early age, Shell understood the importance of maintaining a balance between academics and athletics. During his high school years, he excelled at both. He graduated from Whitmire High School in 1970 and attended South Carolina State University, where he continued to play football. He received a bachelor of science degree in physical education and biology in 1974.

Joining the Steelers in 1974, Shell's chances of a successful career appeared slim. But through determination, persistence and hard work, he progressed from his lowly position on special teams to defensive starter in three years. He eventually became the team's defensive captain and was a commanding figure in the legendary "Steel Curtain," which propelled Pittsburgh to four Super Bowl championships.

"Defense was the key," said Shell. "Teams just could not score against us."

When he retired in 1988, Shell had established a record as the only strong safety in NFL history to make 50 interceptions. He was voted onto the Pro-Bowl Team five consecutive years.

"From walk-on to all-pro was the highlight of my football career," said Shell.

In the midst of his successful professional football career, he entered South Carolina State University to pursue a masters degree. In 1977, he received his master's degree in guidance and counseling. He says, "I strongly believe that education is never finished." He has since enrolled for additional credit hours toward a doctoral degree.

Shell has been an influence on people of all ages. He has coached at high school, college and professional levels. He has also counseled athletes on drug abuse, stress management, education development and goal setting. Currently involved with managing the careers of professional athletes, he also is a commercial real estate agent.

He has received numerous honors and awards during his career. In 1986 he was elected to the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame. In 1992, he was selected as a member of the NFL Silver Anniversary Super Bowl Team.

Shell believes, "If you stay focused on the dreams inside of you, you can achieve whatever



# August 1994

**Sunday**

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**

**Friday**

**Saturday**

**1**

Whitney Young named  
executive director of  
National Urban League  
in 1961

Benjamin E. Mays  
born in 1895

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Voting Rights Act signed by  
President Johnson in 1965

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Jesse Owens won four  
Olympic gold medals  
in 1936

Thaddeus Stevens  
died in 1868

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Marcus Garvey born in 1887

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National Negro Business  
League founded in 1900

Brotherhood of  
Sleeping Car Porters  
organized in 1925

W.E.B. DuBois died in 1963

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**31**

March on Washington  
in 1963





**Major General  
Matthew A. Zimmerman, Jr.**

*Chief of Chaplains - U.S. Army*

As a child, Matthew Zimmerman lived a life many children would find difficult to enjoy. Born in Rock Hill in 1941, his father was principal of his school and minister of his church. His mother was his first grade teacher.

"I used to get zapped three to four times for the same offense," Zimmerman said. "My parents, however, were my inspiration, especially my dad. They taught me spiritual values and the importance of building good relationships."

Eventually, Zimmerman graduated as valedictorian from Sims High School in Union County. He skipped grades and entered Benedict College at age 16, graduating from Benedict with a degree in chemistry and with plans to go to medical school.

"At the time I graduated from college, Duke University was offering fellowships to encourage black students to attend their university," Zimmerman recalls. "I decided to attend Duke and then to go to medical school. Once I started studying at the seminary, though, I decided I wanted to be ordained as a minister."

Zimmerman became the first African-American student to graduate with a master of divinity degree from Duke University. He was ordained by the National Baptist Convention, Inc., U.S.A. and began serving as a campus pastor at universities and colleges throughout the country. Later, he received a master of science degree in guidance and counseling from Long Island University in New York.

In 1967, he entered into military service and was commissioned captain by direct appointment. Shortly after becoming a chaplain, Zimmerman served in Vietnam, where he spent many hours helping Vietnamese orphanages collect clothing and other basic supplies. He also served in Panama, Grenada and in the Desert Storm campaign.

On April 13, 1989, President Bush nominated Zimmerman for promotion to brigadier general. Following confirmation by the United States Senate, he was appointed deputy chief of chaplains of the United States Army. The following year, he was promoted to major general and appointed chief of chaplains, the first African-American to hold this position. As the chief of chaplains of the U. S. Army, he oversees 2,800 active duty Reserve and National Guard chaplains and 2,800 chaplain assistants stationed with troops worldwide.

"In the Army there are 92 different denominations represented on active duty by chaplains," Zimmerman said. "We have 39 female chaplains, including a female rabbi. All of our chaplains have to minister to people of all persuasions, but they don't have to perform a specific event, such as a wedding or other sacraments. However, they are responsible for finding religious personnel to perform specific ceremonies."

Zimmerman credits his family and years of college ministry in preparing him for working with people of different backgrounds. "It is important for students to realize that there are many different cultures. They need to learn to accept people as individuals," Zimmerman says.

Major General Zimmerman has received numerous decorations for his service to the military and many civilian honors including a doctor of humane letters degree from Benedict College and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Duke University Divinity School. In 1990, he was the recipient of the NAACP's Roy Wilkins Meritorious Service Award.



# September 1994



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 General Daniel "Chappie" James, Jr. named commander-in-chief of North American Air Defense Command in 1975	2	3
4	Labor Day 5	Rosh Hashanah 6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	Yom Kippur 15 Dr. Mae Jemison first African-American female astronaut in space in 1992	16	17 United States Constitution signed in 1787
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Lou Brock stole 935th base in 1970
25	26	27 Memphis Blues published in 1912	28 Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World published in 1829	29	30	





STRANGE

Sarah Reese

"She has it in her to be the supreme soprano of our day. There hasn't been a sound like this in 30 years, since Leontyne Price was starting out," said one music critic of opera singer Sarah Reese. Her superb soprano voice has enabled her to travel and perform throughout the world, but her fondest memory is of the night she came home to sing in her native Greenville.

"I wanted to sing there so badly, but I almost didn't make it," Reese recalls of the time in November 1990 when she was asked to be the guest artist at the gala opening concert of the Peace Center for the Performing Arts in Greenville. "I was performing at the Metropolitan Opera playing the role of Clara in *Porgy and Bess* and the Met wouldn't let me miss a performance. But the sponsors of the Peace Center wanted me to perform, so they rented a Lear jet, picked me up in New York, and flew me to Greenville, where I sang at the Peace Center. Then, they flew me back to New York in time for my performance with the Met. It was a remarkable occasion."

Since 1981, when Reese made her New York debut, there have been many memorable occasions for those who have had the good fortune to listen to her performances.

"A new soprano of high promise, with a gleaming voice," wrote the music critic for *The New Yorker* magazine while, more recently, *The New York Times* lauded her "luscious voice... with disarmingly natural instincts and compelling stage presence." Reese started learning about stage presence as a child.

"I grew up in the small town of Pelzer, and I loved to watch the 'Ted Mack Amateur Hour,'" recalls Reese. "After watching the show I would go into the woods and sing nonsense and dream of being on 'Ted Mack'."

Thirteen years later, her dream came true. While she was working on her music education degree at Furman University, she auditioned on "Ted Mack" and won.

"It takes a lot of dedication to be an opera singer. After winning on 'Ted Mack', I had to work hard and make many sacrifices," Reese said. "I still practice every day."

Reese has performed with some of the most famous orchestras and conductors throughout the world. She has worked with conductors Andrew Davis, Leslie Dunner, David Zinman, Paul Dunkel, Christian Badea, and Maestro Herbert von Karajan. Some of the roles she has played includes the Priestess in *Aida*, Ilia in *Idomeneo*, and Musetta in *La Bohème*. Recently, Reese performed and recorded, on the Koch International Classics label, Barber's *Prayers of Kirkegaard* with the Chicago Symphony.

In addition to performing various roles in Switzerland, England, France, Monte Carlo, Italy and Russia, Reese has traveled to Toulouse, Strasbourg, Dusseldorf and Cologne with the Festival Orchestra of Sofia, Bulgaria, as the soprano soloist in Verdi's *Requiem* and Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*. In Boston she participated in a history-making cultural exchange when she sang in the American premiere of Rodion Schedrin's opera, *The Dead Souls*, in joint performances with the Bolshoi and Kirov opera companies.

Her most recent accomplishments include performing with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall in London in Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* and with the American Composers Orchestra at New York's Carnegie Hall in the American premiere of *The Leaden Echo, The Golden Echo*.

"I never could have made it in the opera world without the lessons that my mother and grandmother taught me," Reese said. "They taught me to have strong values, such as honesty and



# October 1994



**Southern Bell**  
A BELL SOUTH Company

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

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Colin Powell appointed  
first African-American  
Chairman of the Joint  
Chiefs of Staff in 1989

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Fisk Jubilee Singers began  
national tour in 1871

Jesse Jackson  
born in 1941

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Columbus  
Day

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Martin Luther King, Jr.  
awarded Nobel Peace Prize  
in 1964

Clarence Thomas  
confirmed to the U.S.  
Supreme Court in 1992

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John Brown led attack on  
Harper's Ferry in 1859

Capital Savings Bank  
opened in Washington, D.C.  
in 1888

Dizzy Gillespie  
born in 1917

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24 United  
Nations  
Day

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Jackie Robinson  
died in 1972  
Halloween 31

B.O. Davis, Jr. became first  
African-American general in  
the Air Force in 1954





STRANGE

**Leo F. Twiggs, Ed. D.**

As a child, Leo Twiggs wanted to get a job in which he could wear a collar and tie—a modest goal perhaps, but an extremely unlikely one for a poor, sickly 14-year-old boy who attended a badly equipped segregated school, and who had to look after his sister and five younger brothers after the death of his father.

With hard work and persistence, Twiggs handled every obstacle to attain his goal. Today, he is acknowledged as one of South Carolina's foremost artists. He is chairperson of the Department of Art at South Carolina State University, and is the executive director of the Stanback Museum and Planetarium. And, every day, he wears a collar and tie to work.

"My mother and grandmother always wanted me to get an education and, to them, wearing a tie signified success," Twiggs said. "They always believed that I could do it."

Once he graduated from high school, a local pastor introduced him to the president of Claflin College who helped arrange for Twiggs to afford to go to college. Twiggs graduated summa cum laude from Claflin College and went on to earn a master's degree in art from New York University and became the first African-American to earn a doctorate in art education and criticism from the University of Georgia.

Twiggs is nationally known for his batik work. Batik is an ancient wax resist and dye process which can be traced back to fifth and sixth century Egypt. Several of Twiggs's batiks are displayed throughout the world. He has received numerous awards and recognitions, but the highlight of his career was receiving the Elizabeth O'Neil Verner Individual Award.

"The Elizabeth O'Neil Verner Award is given by the South Carolina governor to recognize the highest contributions to the arts in South Carolina," Twiggs said. "It was such an honor to be recognized in my home state."

Many of the images in his batiks focus on mother images, bird images and children. "I suppose that living in the lowcountry with my grandmother, mother, sister, brothers, uncles and aunts has acted to shape what I explore in my work," Twiggs said. "The people I knew were folks who lived, loved and died in their meager environment. However, there was a dignity about that existence, an existence not unlike that of many other people in the world."

"East Wind Suite" was a series Twiggs produced after Hurricane Hugo hit the coast of South Carolina. His mother and family lived through the storm, and Twiggs was overwhelmed by the destruction the hurricane inflicted.

"To me, the hurricane series is a coming together of all the images I had produced over the years—mother, family, and people I know," Twiggs said. "The hurricane series shows people in a dire situation. They are in the wind and they are unyielding, just like the people I know."

Twiggs tells students, "I believe in the importance of the arts. I believe that they are repositories for the hopes and aspirations of a people, of a culture, that they can combat discrimination and bring us closer together as human beings. For to come to love, appreciate and respect the arts of a people is to come to love, appreciate and respect the people themselves. You must give love



# November 1994



**Southern Bell**  
A BELL SOUTH Company

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 First issue of <i>Ebony</i> published in 1945 First issue of <i>Crisis</i> published in 1910	2	3 Jim Clyburn, first S.C. African-American elected to U.S. Congress after post-reconstruction. Carol Moseley Braun first African-American woman elected to U.S. Senate in 1992	4	5 Walter E. Washington elected Mayor of Washington, D.C. in 1974
6 Absalom Jones born in 1746	7	Election Day 8	9 Benjamin Banneker born in 1731	10	Veterans Day 11	12
13	14 Booker T. Washington died in 1915	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	Thanksgiving Day 24	25 Dancer Luther "Bill" Robinson died in 1949	26 Sojourner Truth died in 1883
27 Richard Wright died in 1960	Hanukkah Begins 28	29	30			





**James E. Bostic, Jr., Ph. D.**

*Businessman*

James Edward Bostic, Jr. looks to one of America's greatest literary figures, Ralph Waldo Emerson, for inspiration. Emerson wrote: "There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that imitation is suicide; that he must take himself for better for worse as his portion; that though the wide universe is full of good, no kernel of nourishing corn can come to him but through his toil bestowed on that plot of ground which is given to him to till."

Bostic's first plot of ground to till was a farm in Marlboro County which he shared with his parents and eight younger brothers and sisters. His mother, valedictorian of her high school class, was unable to go to college. She encouraged her children to get an education.

Bostic went to Clemson University and earned a bachelor of science degree in textile chemistry in 1969. He used a Ford Foundation Fellowship, which would have allowed him to attend any university in America, to stay at Clemson to study chemistry and to improve race relations on campus. In 1972 he became the first African-American to earn a doctorate at Clemson University.

"I believe we live in a great country that has more opportunities than any other in the world," Bostic said. "Our ability to realize those opportunities is made better by the preparation we receive in school."

After graduating from Clemson, Bostic was selected to participate in the prestigious White House Fellowship program and appointed as assistant to the secretary of agriculture. Begun by President Lyndon Johnson in 1965, this program provided this young African-American with the opportunity to participate in the highest levels of the federal government before taking his experience and using it in business and his local community. Because of that appointment, Bostic got the rare chance to visit the People's Republic of China in 1973.

In President Richard Nixon's administration, Bostic served as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Then, he joined Riegel Textile Corp. as a corporate regulatory director. After eight years, he joined the Georgia-Pacific Corp. as general manager of the Convenience Products Division. He became the general manager of Georgia-Pacific's Commercial Products and System Division in 1989.

In 1980, he was elected chairman of the Commission on Higher Education in South Carolina. During his tenure as chairman, the "South Carolina Master Plan for Higher Education" was approved by the South Carolina General Assembly and the "South Carolina Higher Education Desegregation Plan" was approved and initially funded.

"I have a very strong interest in education, especially higher education," Bostic said. "Students must have high expectations of themselves the moment they begin school as children, through their college years and into the world of work. Students learn that through hard work, their dreams can come true."

In 1991, Bostic was elected an officer of Georgia Pacific Corp. as vice president of Butler Paper and Mail-Well. One year later, he was named the group vice president of Communication Papers and is operating head of the largest printing and writing paper business in the United States.

Bostic is a member of the board of trustees of Tuskegee University, Wofford College, and of the President's Commission on White House Fellowships. Also, he is on the board of directors of the Wachovia Bank of Georgia. Bostic has served on the board of directors at South Carolina National Corporation and of South Carolina National Bank. He has received numerous honors and awards for his notable achievements.

Bostic is still working his plot of ground. "You have to take the task at hand and use your tools to make a difference," he said. "You know you are successful when you impact the lives of



# December 1994



**Southern Bell**  
A BELL SOUTH Company

**Sunday**

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**

**Friday**

**Saturday**

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American Anti-Slavery  
Society organized in 1833

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Joseph H. Rainey (S.C.)  
first African-American  
elected to Congress in 1870

Maggie Lena Walker,  
banker, died in 1934

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24

PUSH founded in 1971  
13th Amendment  
ratified in 1865

Carter G. Woodson  
born in 1875

**Christmas  
Day**

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Boxing Day (Canada)

Rosa Parks refused to  
give up her seat on a  
public bus in 1955

First issue of  
*North Star* newspaper  
published in 1847